## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 SS-15 PM-03 INR-07 ISO-00 SP-02 L-03 IGA-01

R 021355Z JUL 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 156081

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, TH

SUBJECT: EX-CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE ASSETS IN THAILAND

REF: A. BANGKOK 12087; B. BANGKOK 12579; C. STATE 146231

- 1. THE QUESTIONS YOU RAISED IN PARA 2 OF REF A APPEAR TO BE NO LONGER RELEVANT IN VIEW OF KHUKRIT'S AGREEMENT THAT WE CAN REMOVE THE SIX C-7'S AND ONE F-5E (REF B). WE WERE CONSIDERING THE PACKAGE DEAL WE OUTLINED IN REF C ONLY BECAUSE WE HOPED THAT IT MIGHT BE AN INDUCEMENT TO THE THAI TO RELEASE THE AIRCRAFT WE WANTED TO REMOVE FROM THAILAND. AS YOU POINTED OUT, HOWEVER, OTHER CONSIDERATIONS PROBABLY WOULD HAVE BEEN OF OVERRIDING IMPORTANCE TO THE THAI.
- 2. WITH REGARD TO THE EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL REMAIN AFTER THE REMOVAL OF THE SIX C-7'S AND ONE F-5E, WE HAVE MADE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE WHITE HOUSE ON ITS ULTIMATE REDISTRICONFIDENTIAL

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BUTION BUT DOD HAS NOT YET PUT IN ALL ITS BIDS. OUR

RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDE TRANSFER OF A NUMBER OF ITEMS TO THAILAND. OTHER ITEMS WOULD GO TO KOREA, INDONESIA, THE PHILIPPINES, AND TAIWAN. ASSUMING OUR RECOMMENDATIONS ARE APPROVED, WE WILL WANT TO MOVE THESE ITEMS OUT OF THAILAND AT SOME POINT IN THE NOT TO DISTANT FUTURE. IN THE INTERIM,

FUNDS HAVE BEEN EARMARKED TO PROVIDE MINIMAL MAINTENANCE.

3. WE ASSUME THAT WE COULD INTERPRET KHUKRIT'S WISH THAT ALL THE PLANES "DISAPPEAR" AS GIVING US LATITUDE TO REMOVE ALL THE EQUIPMENT DESTINED FOR THIRD COUNTRIES UNOBTRUSIVELY AND IN DUE COURSE, WITHOUT FORMAL RTG CONCURRENCE OR RELEASE. HOWEVER, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON THE FEASIBILITY OF PROCEEDING UPON THIS ASSUMPTION, GIVEN THE POTENTIAL PRESS AND PUBLIC OUTCRY WHEN OUR ACTION (ALREADY SIGNALLED TO CHATCHAI) BECOMES KNOWN, AND THE PROBABILITY THAT NEITHER KHUKRIT NOR THE THAI MILITARY WOULD BE WILLING TO DEFEND OUR ACTION OR SHARE THE OPPROBRIUM. INGERSOLL

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: EX-CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE ASSETS IN THAILAND TAGS: MARR, MASS, PFOR, VS, TH, US, (KHUKRIT PRAMOT)

To: BANGKOK

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